

— of developing and implementing the strategy which develops a sense of responsibility of an individual, inseparably related to the sense of civic responsibility, as well as forming and fostering such senses as solidarity, creativity, ability to settle conflicts in a peaceful way;

— of realization of the idea of a lifelong education for both young and older generations.

## **CULTURE AND ECOLOGY**

Nizhny Tagil is situated 120 km to the north of Yekaterinburg. This is a monument of a unique industrial heritage, here there is a Museum of Mining and Metallurgy in the Urals set up in the territory of an old Demidovs metallurgical plant. At present, it is a large construction and cultural centre. The town is also famous for its painted trays, they began to manufacture them as far back as in the XVIIIth century.

Subject of the round table discussion «Culture and Ecology» is search of ways to solve problems of interaction of man and environment in a spiritual, social and ecological aspects, at the example of the Ural Region.

Participants are sorry to establish the fact that development of civilization is accompanied with an increasing alienation of man from nature and national culture. The main reason of the developing ecological catastrophe apparently roots in historically established values stimulating increasing consumption of natural resources to the detriment of nature. Mounting ecological problems cannot be solved by only economic and technological methods, what is needed is a change of values, a radical change of the notion about a place and a role of man in nature. That is to say, mankind has come to the threshold over which it will need new morals, a new system of values.

Today, the question is not of ecological education alone, but of a new social order based on a new ethics, new morals, new idea of a place and role of man in nature.

It is necessary to turn a mass technocratic consciousness into an ecological thinking.

Salvation of mankind lies in its spiritual and cultural development which, together with moral values, are aimed at protection of every living thing and interests of nature as a whole. Mankind will be able to have a prospect of development only when it finds itself in the equilibrium with biosphere.

The Urals is a powerful industrial region with a richest industrial and cultural heritage, a large experience of survival in the extreme conditions of radiation and technogenic pollution.

It became clear that further development of the Region must be based on the strategy, providing for a balanced solution of social and economic tasks, preservation of a favourable state of environment and natural resources potential in the interest of the present and future generations.

Assuming that without its heritage the people is doomed to a physical and mental degradation, and mankind as a whole — to a loss of a biological and ethnic diversity, and in the long run, to extinction, — participants consider that it is necessary:

- to revive and assimilate natural and cultural heritage of the Urals as one whole and a world property (implementation of the Convention on Preservation of World Cultural and Natural Heritage), including it into the list of World heritage;

- with the aim of generalizing world experience of helping territories with an extreme ecological situation out of crisis and rendering such a help to industrial centres of the Urals, — to establish in the Urals a World Ecological Centre;

- to carry out scientific, educational, cultural work which contributes to turning of mass technocratic consciousness into a systematic ecological thinking;

- to accumulate and use a psychological experience of survival in the extreme ecological conditions of the Urals, to use the experience of the Ural UNESCO clubs.

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### **ECOLOGY: SCIENTIFIC KNOWLEDGE AND PUBLIC MENTALITY**

The word «ecology» is very popular now, with its meaning being different for different audience. For scientists, ecology is clearly defined as the branch of biological sciences, whereas for unprofessional public it usually means just the level of environmental pollution, or studying only hygienic aspects of the state of environment at the best. Thus, dangerous discrepancy between common perception of ecology and the results obtained by ecological sciences have appeared. The cause for this discrepancy is underestimation of the core